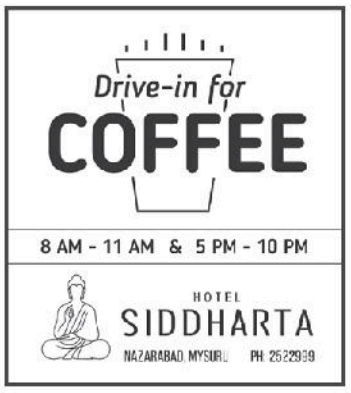

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MYSURU Monday 2nd February 2026
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Gold Loan Scam BUSTED

Jewellery shop owner arrested for melting gold worth Rs. 1.50 crore

T. Yogesh

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (PM&KS)- With gold prices soaring by the day, incidents of cheating in the name of gold through attractive schemes have risen considerably. Amid this trend, the Police have cautioned the public to remain vigilant against fraudulent schemes.

A Vijayanagar-based gold shop owner has been arrested for allegedly cheating customers by offering gold loans at unusually low interest rates and later absconding. The arrested accused has been identified as T. Yogesh (30), Proprietor of 'Star Gold Company,' located at Trinetra Circle in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage in city.

According to the Police, Yogesh advertised gold loans at very low interest rates, following which customers pawned their gold jewellery and availed loans.

(See GOLD LOAN on page 6)

Certifying fake gold as genuine

Bank cheated of Rs. 56.78 lakh

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (RK&VNS)- The Devaraja Police have registered an FIR against seven persons, including a bank's gold appraiser, in connection with an alleged fake gold pawn fraud involving Rs. 56.78 lakh at Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd.

The incident came to light recently and the accused have been identified as Abdul Jameel of Mysuru, Sagar, Puttaraju and Ravi Kumar, Ravi Kumar's wife Divya of Mandya, Nagarathna Reddy of Bengaluru and bank's gold appraiser Ravindra Kumar, a resident of T. Narasipur.

FIR against seven accused, including gold appraiser

According to the Police, the accused, in collusion with the bank's gold appraiser, pledged fake gold weighing about 780 grams at the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank branch on Narayana Shastry Road and cheated the bank of Rs. 56.78 lakh.

Based on a complaint lodged by Bank Manager Suresh Kannan, Devaraja Police registered a case.

(See BANK on page 6)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 2nd February 2026

Mysuru students bag accolades in Dubai

Mysuru, Feb. 2- Astin Jenis (II ISC) of De Paul International Residential School (DPIRS), Mysuru, won the coveted HMUN X 2026 Best Speaker Award in the prestigious HMUN International Conference held in Dubai.

Alita Rose (I IAL) received the Diplomatic Commendation Award in the UNICEF Committee at HMUN Dubai 2026 for her excellence in research and diplomacy.

These students came victorious competing with participants from over 40 countries.

Shriya Sudharshan (IGCSE X) of DPIRS was adjudged the Outstanding Pearson Learner Award for being India Topper in English Language Examination.

Fr. Aneesh Xavier CM, the Principal of DPIRS, felicitated the achievers during the school assembly recently.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

LIT FESTS AND THE MISSING STORIES: ***It is not enough to teach English as a subject. English must also become a medium through which Dalit, Adivasi and disadvantaged students learn science, history, philosophy, politics, music and economics. Only then can they write about these subjects in English and enter national forums, academic discourses, publishing networks and literature festivals with confidence and authority.***

For too long, English literature in India has been guarded consciously or unconsciously by elite and middle-class gatekeepers. Indian-language literatures are respected but often through polite admiration rather than equal platforming. Even when festivals invite writers from marginalised communities, they are sometimes positioned as "special sessions" rather than as central voices shaping the festival's intellectual agenda.

We speak at festivals about gender, identity, climate, technology, popular culture, cinema and global politics. Yet we often leave out the most transformative issue of all: education. If literature festivals aspire to be democratic cultural spaces, they must begin by asking: Where are the marginalised? Why do their stories not appear on our panels? Why are they not on our stages? Inclusion cannot be a decorative gesture. It must be structural.

And that inclusion begins long before the festival, inside classrooms, libraries, government schools, community reading spaces and public universities. It begins with access, with English, with opportunity and with voice. Only then will literature festivals truly represent the full spectrum of Indian life — not just everything and everyone, but also those who have long been left outside the gates.

—Ravinarayan Chakrakodi in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Woman suffers stroke after cracking neck

New York: A simple stretching of the neck caused a young woman to temporarily lose her vision as well as the ability to speak after suffering a stroke.

KayLynne Felthager was driving home from Walmart when she felt a headache coming on and instinctively stretched her neck to the right to relieve some tension. It had become somewhat of a habit to crack her neck after a long day at work, but this time was different. Almost immediately after hearing the crack in her neck, Kaylynne felt a sharp pain in her neck which did not subside over the next several days. It wasn't until five days later that things really took a turn for the worse. Once at the hospital, doctors performed a CT scan, which revealed that she had suffered a stroke resulting in a blood clot reaching her brain. Luckily, the blood clot dissolved quickly, so the doctors didn't need to operate.

AI conjoined twins go viral on social media

New York: Conjoined twins Valeria and Camila are the latest AI influencers to go viral on social media, gaining hundreds of thousands of followers in a very short time.

Valeria and Camila are probably the most attractive conjoined twins the world has ever seen. A quick perusal of their Instagram page tells you they are digitally rendered avatars, not real people, but many of their 280,000 followers don't know, or simply don't care. The comments section of their posts is always full of compliments, invitations and heart emojis.

The creators of the conjoined twins even created a backstory for them, complete with AI-generated childhood photos and made-up stories about their daily lives. This only made their fans more invested in them, to the point where they ignore the fact that they aren't real.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Fatty liver disease affects nearly 30% of urban adults and often has no early symptoms; timely screening can reverse it.

By Dr. Satheesh Rao A.K. - Senior Consultant – Medical Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Sandal Urus celebration of Hazarath Imam Sha Wali on Feb. 7

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (KS) - The annual Sandal Urus celebration of Hazarath Imam Sha Wali will be held at the Dargah on Krishna Vilas Road, near Lokayukta Office after Maghrib prayers at the Dargha on Feb. 7, according to Muthawali-wo-Sajjada Nasheen Mohammed Naqib-Ulla Sha Khadree Sahar Wardi.

Fatha khawni, sandal paste, spreading of flower mat (Chadar Shariff), Darud-o-Salam and Duwa Shariff will be performed at the Dargha following which dinner (Tabruk) will be provided for the devotees and participants.

On Feb. 6 after Namaz-e-Juma, celebration of Jashne Eid Meelad-un-Nabi - Birthday of Prophet Muhammad will be held following which fatha khawni, Darud-o-Salam, supplication Duwa will be offered at the Dargha. Lunch has been arranged by the Management.

For details, interested may contact Mob: 98453-02996.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **119.36 feet**	Today's level **2,274.90 feet**	Today's level **2,830.41 feet**
Last year's level **119.64 feet**	Last year's level **2,279.34 feet**	Last year's level **2,836.78 feet**
Yesterday's level **119.54 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,274.95 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,830.37 feet**
Today's Inflow **321 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **263 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **256 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **2,756 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **500 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Germany's AutoTram Extra Grand is the largest bus in the world currently in operation. This giant vehicle can hold up to 256 passengers and measures 30 metres long (that's over 98 feet - approximately the length of two and a half average-sized buses!)***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

"Any questions?" ***the teacher asked his students. There was a silence... One among them got up and asked,*** *"Sir, will you please repeat what you taught us today?!"*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 91.60
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 125.24
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 24.94
1 Euro	= Rs. 108.57

VOICE OF THE READER

Rectify display board of Maharana Pratap Road

Sir,

Maharana Pratap Singhji Road is a busy junction located at the intersection of Karanji Lake Road and M.G. Road.

Regrettably, the display board bearing the name of Maharana Pratap Singhji, situated on the Race Course side, is presently in a dismantled and neglected condition. This reflects poorly on civic responsibility and amounts to disrespect to one of the greatest warriors in Indian history.

It may be recalled that, as reported earlier in *SOM*, the authorities had assured that the damaged display board would be replaced with a new and aesthetically pleasing one. However, no action has been initiated so far.

Further, the pedestrian pavement along the Race Course stretch is in a dilapidated condition. Due to damaged and uneven interlocking blocks, pedestrians are forced to walk on the main road, exposing themselves to serious safety risks, especially during peak traffic hours.

I earnestly request that the Mysuru City Corporation take immediate steps to replace the discarded display board and restore the pedestrian pavement by relaying the interlocking blocks, ensuring safety and convenience for the public at the earliest.

—Pradeep Mysore Rajshekar
Mysuru
3.1.2026

Obituary

Manavattira C. Vishwanath

Kushalnagar (Kodagu), Feb. 2- Manavattira C. Vishwanath (78), retired KEB Officer and a resident of Kushalnagar, passed away following a heart attack at a private hospital in the town last night.

He leaves behind his wife Rathi (Mallige - Kechamada), son Ravi Ponnappa, daughter Rashmi Kaverappa and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Kodava Samaja Burial Grounds in the town this afternoon.

Earl Brian Dove

Mysuru: Earl Brian Dove (67), a retired Railway employee and a resident of Pushpashrama Main Road in Kesare 3rd Stage, passed away this morning in city.

He leaves behind his son Joy Anthony Dove, Senior Executive (Advt-Sales) at *Star of Mysore*, daughter-in-law Dr. Florita, daughter Irene Dove, son-in-law Lithin Anthony, grand-children Mikayla Dove, Kevin Able Dove and Liam Anthony and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral was held at the Roman Catholic Cemetery on Mahadevapura Road, Gandhinagar, this afternoon.

K. Kenchegowda

Bharathinagar (Mandya): K. Kenchegowda (78), retired Professor at PES College, Mandya, passed away yesterday. He leaves behind his wife N.G. Suvarna, son Dr. Sharath Babu, daughter-in-law Dr. Tejaswini, brother K. Basavarajegowda (retired Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Executive Engineer) and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at his native place this morning.

Girija Sundaresh

Nanjangud: Girija Sundaresh (75), a resident of the temple town, passed away following a heart attack here yesterday.

She leaves behind her husband Dr. Sundaresh, son Dr. Srikanth, daughter Dr. Deepa, daughter-in-law Dr. Divya and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held near Hadinaaru Kaalu Mantapa on the banks of Kapila River today.

Union Budget 2026-27

Strong emphasis on youth empowerment, lauds MP

Yaduveer

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (BCT)- The Union Budget 2026-27 presented yesterday by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has placed strong emphasis on youth empowerment and technology-driven sectors, in line with the vision of a developed India, opined Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar.

In a press release, the MP described it as development-oriented and people-centric.

The Budget reflects fiscal discipline and economic balance, with record public investment in infrastructure. Growth plans are being extended to Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, particularly in sectors such as semiconductors, biopharma, and electronics manufacturing.

Education to employment

The Government has prioritised skill development in areas including AVGC (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics), healthcare, tourism and regional growth centres, aiming to create clear pathways from education to employment, he said.

Calling MSMEs the backbone of India's economy, Yaduveer highlighted allocations aimed at improving credit access, promoting technology adoption, strengthening market linkages, and enhancing ease of doing business.

The Budget proposes investments in freight corridors, inland waterways and high-speed rail connectivity. These measures will enhance regional connectivity, create sustainable economic opportunities and lay a strong foundation for a resilient, future-ready nation, he added.

Mysuru industries welcome growth-oriented provisions

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (BCT)- The Union Budget has announced a bumper package for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), earning praise from the Mysuru Industries Association (MIA).

Vishwanath

Suresh Kumar

MIA President P. Vishwanath and General Secretary Suresh Kumar Jain welcomed it as a development-oriented budget.

A new Scheme for Enhancement of Construction and Infrastructure Equipment (CIE) will strengthen domestic production of advanced, high-value equipment.

This includes lifts for multi-storey apartments, fire-fighting systems and tunnel-boring machines for metro projects and high-altitude roads.

Container manufacturing ecosystem

The Government has unveiled a Scheme for container manufacturing with a budgetary allocation of Rs. 10,000 crore over five years, aimed at building a globally competitive ecosystem in this sector.

Over 200 legacy industrial clusters will be revived to improve cost competitiveness and efficiency through infrastructure upgrades and technology modernisation.

Champion SMEs and Growth Fund

Special investment zone: As part of this initiative, Mysuru's 6,500-acre Hebbal region is likely to be included as a special investment zone. This could attract significant capital inflows and transform the area into a hub for modern industries.

The budget also announced the creation of "Champion SMEs" and extended support to micro enterprises. A dedicated Rs. 10,000 crore SME Growth fund will incentivise enterprises and nurture future champions, they pointed out. In addition, high-speed trains between Bengaluru - Hyderabad and Bengaluru - Chennai were highlighted, promising faster connectivity between major economic hubs.

I welcome the announcement of two high-speed rail corridors and incentives for sandalwood and cashew cultivation. Schemes such as hostels for girls in districts and initiatives like "She-Mart" to promote women's self-reliance would strengthen the nation's economic growth.

—T.S. Srivatsa, MLA, Krishnaraja Constituency

The Budget is people-centric rather than popularity-driven. Rs. 40,000 crore allocations for semiconductor development, reduction in prices of medicines for diabetes and cancer patients, and exemption of accident claims insurance from taxation are praiseworthy.

—C.N. Manjegowda, MLC

I welcome the youth and women-centric nature of the Budget. I am confident that the Indian economy will achieve double-digit growth. The measures for the revival of the khadi industry and plans to establish a sports hub will boost exports of sporting equipment.

—M.A. Mohan, BJP Spokesperson

While the Budget is positive for the country overall, Karnataka received a big zero. States heading into elections, including Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal, were given priority, while Karnataka saw no major allocations for tourism or development. The Centre has ignored key demands such as the reduction of GST on rental buildings from 18 percent to 5 percent, an increase in Karnataka's share of GST collections, and doubling of the income tax exemption limit for individuals.

—C. Narayanagowda, President, Mysuru Hoteliers' Assn.

NEWS BRIEFS

Folk Art and Theatre Training

Gowthama Education and Cultural Seva Trust, Mysuru, has organised free Folk Art Forms and Theatre Training Camp for those aged above 13 years at Kalamandira from Feb. 6. For details, contact Mob: 96320-73716 or 76187-39343.

Guided introduction to Bhagavad Gita

Sri Eswaran

A guided introduction to the timeless wisdom of Srimad Bhagavad Gita by Sri Eswaran, Founder-Acharya, Vedanta Institute Bangalore, has been organised at Andal Mandiram on Temple Road in V.V. Mohalla, Mysuru, starting from Feb. 11. A 12-week course will be held every Wednesday from 6 pm to 7 pm. Sri Eswaran is a protégé of the eminent philosopher Swami A. Parthasarathy and also holds a Ph.D. in Psychotherapy. He has been actively involved in the study, research and propagation of Vedanta for over 30 years, through 'Vedanta Institute Bangalore,' a registered public charity founded by him. For more details, contact Mob: 90358-96665.

Staging of play

The students of Natana School of Theatre Arts, Mysuru, studying Diploma in Theatre (2025-26) will be staging the play 'Death of a Salesman' in Kannada at Natana premises in Ramakrishnanagar on Feb. 4 and 5 at 6.30 pm. The play, originally written in English by Arthur Miller, is translated to Kannada by K.S. Poornima and K.P. Vasudevan. Costumes and make-up by Disha Ramesh. Stage design by Megha Sameer. Music and direction by Amith Reddy.

Children's Theatre Festival

The following plays will be staged as part of Rangantharanga Children's Theatre Festival, organised by Rangantharanga Mysuru - A Children's Theatre, at Mini Theatre in Kalamandira premises: **Feb. 7 - 6 pm:** 'Huli Beteya Hinde... Munde...' by students of Rangantharanga weekend acting classes [Written by Murthideraj; Directed by S. Srikanth (Kanaja)]; **Feb. 8 - 2.30 pm:** 'Tikkalu Raja Tiruboki Rajya' by Morarji Desai Residential School, Doddahundi, Mysuru taluk [Written by Santhosh Guddiyangadi; Directed by K.M. Keerthiraj]; **Feb. 8 - 5.30 pm:** 'Muttisikondavanu' by students of Rangantharanga weekend acting classes. [Mob: 97399-19004]

Kollegal's groom stabbing case

Bride, lover arrested for attempted murder

Unwilling to marry, bride asked lover to attack groom on the way to wedding hall

Injured Raveesh

Kollegal, Feb. 2 (KS)- The Kollegal Police have arrested three persons, including the bride and her alleged lover, on charges of attempting to murder the groom. The Police have also seized the car (KA-03-MZ-5192) used in the crime and launched a manhunt to nab two more accused who are absconding.

Those arrested are Nayana, a resident of Hosa Anagalli Layout under the Kollegal City Municipal Council limits, her lover Darshan, a resident of Bengaluru and a minor boy.

While Nayana and Darshan have been remanded to Judicial Custody, the minor has been sent to the Chamarajanagar Balamandira.

Details

Nayana's wedding with Raveesh, a resident of Kunagalli village in the taluk, was scheduled to be held on Jan. 29 and 30 at Venkateshwara Kalyana Mantap in Kollegal.

On the night of Jan. 29, when the groom Raveesh was travelling to the Kalyana Mantap along with his family members in a car, four to five persons, following them in another vehicle, waylaid the car near MGSV College Road in the town.

The car of the accused which was involved in an accident at Halagur in Malavalli taluk seized by the Police in Bengaluru.

The assailants allegedly told Raveesh that he should be going to a crematorium and not to a wedding hall before attacking him with a knife and fleeing the spot. Raveesh suffered severe bleeding after sustaining an injury to his left arm and was admitted to the Kollegal Government Hospital.

Police probe unravels truth

Following the incident, Kollegal Police registered a case. They launched an investigation under the guidance of Chamarajanagar Superintendent of Police (SP) M. Muthuraju, Addl. SP Shashidhar and Dy.SP Dharmendra.

Accused Darshan and Nayana

During the investigation, the Police found that the car used in the crime had been involved in an accident at Halagur in Malavalli taluk. However, the occupants did not stop; instead, they sped away towards Bengaluru.

Based on mobile phone location tracking, the Police traced the accused to Bengaluru and arrested Darshan, besides taking the minor boy into custody. Both were brought to the Kollegal Town Police Station.

NCB raids on Hebbal Drug Lab

Raids aimed at defaming Mysuru, CM: Congress

Lakshmana

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (GA&VNS)- Alleging that the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) was acting as an agent of the BJP, KPCC Spokesperson M. Lakshmana yesterday said, the agency was deliberately targeting Mysuru and projecting it as a drug manufacturing hub to tarnish the image of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Addressing media persons at the City Congress Bhavan yesterday, Lakshmana said, NCB officials had intercepted a Toyota Fortuner bearing Karnataka registration number KA-20-P-6767 at Palsana in Gujarat on Jan. 28 and recovered certain materials, none of which were proven to be narcotic substances.

He said, this was evident from the remand application submitted before a Mysuru Court seeking custody of the accused, Ganpath Lal.

"The remand application states that NCB officials recovered 41.21 kg of crystalline and powder substances suspected to be mephedrone (MD) and 1.784 kg of blackish substances suspected to be opium. However, the media statement issued by the NCB on Jan. 30 claimed that about 35 kg of mephedrone had been seized. This clearly contradicts the details mentioned in the remand application filed before the Court," Lakshmana alleged.

He further claimed that crystalline substances are commonly used in the manufacture of semiconductors, microchips and solar cells, and pointed out that the remand application did not mention seizure of any narcotic substances from Mysuru.

"Instead, the NCB press release dated Jan. 30 stated that raids were conducted at a suspected drug manufacturing unit in the Hebbal Industrial Area using modern machinery and that about 500 kg of chemicals were recovered. This was aimed solely at bringing a bad reputation to Mysuru, the hometown of CM Siddaramaiah," he alleged.

Taking a dig at Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, Lakshmana said that the MP lacked information and was misleading the public.

"He is only spoiling the reputation of his forefathers, who contributed immensely to the development of Mysore. After being elected as MP, several development projects, including the Mysuru-Kushalnagar railway line, the PRASHAD scheme and the Unity Mall project, have been stalled," he claimed.

Lakshmana further alleged that drug hubs were concentrated in North India and accused the MP of falsely implicating Mysuru in an attempt to outdo his predecessor by spreading misinformation.

Two-year relationship

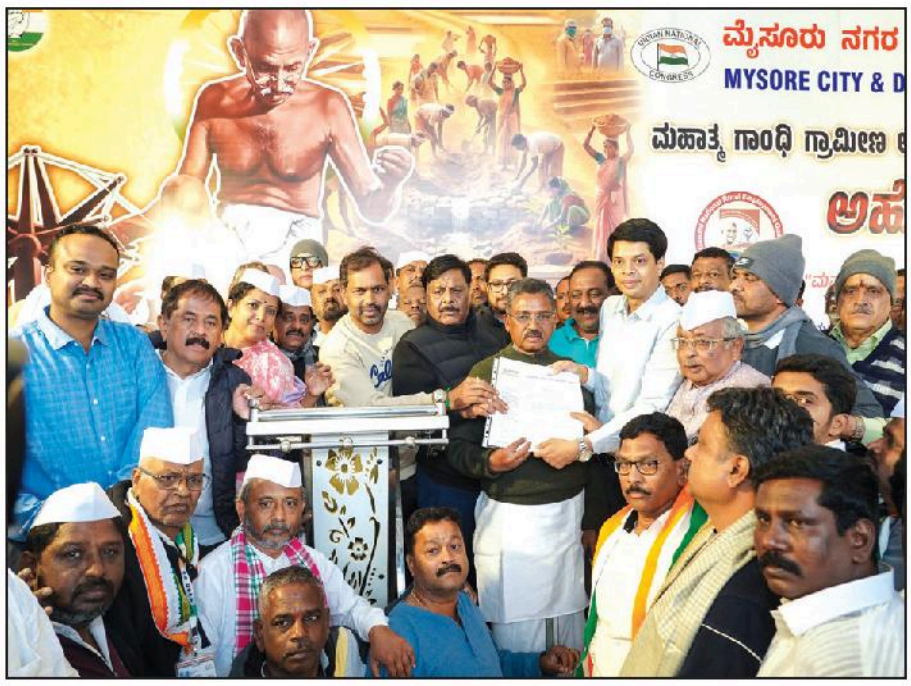
During interrogation, Darshan reportedly told the Police that he had met Nayana while she was working at a private nursing home in Bengaluru and that they had been in a relationship for the past two years. He said, they had planned to get married, but Nayana's parents had fixed her marriage with Raveesh.

According to the Police, as the wedding date approached, Nayana allegedly asked Darshan to stop the marriage. Darshan claimed he advised her to inform her parents, but she expressed fear of humiliating her family and instead asked him to threaten Raveesh so that the wedding would be called off. She allegedly shared Raveesh's mobile number with him.

Darshan further told the Police that after the attack on Jan. 29, he fled towards Bengaluru. He also claimed that Nayana later contacted him from her friend's mobile phone, informing him that the Police had visited the Kalyana Mantap and questioned her, and asked him to come and take her with him.

Congress stages overnight dharna

seeking restoration of MGNREGA Scheme



City and District Congress leaders staging an overnight dharna in Town Hall premises yesterday. Picture right shows KPCC Vice-President V.S. Ugrappa, District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa and other Congress leaders handing over a memorandum to Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy at the protest venue this morning.

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (VVH&DM)- Demanding restoration of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme and strongly opposing the newly introduced Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) — VB-G RAM G — rural employment scheme, which has replaced MGNREGA, the City and District Congress staged an overnight dharna in Town Hall premises in the heart of the city yesterday, that ended at 7 am today.

Addressing the protesters, KPCC Vice-President and former MP V.S. Ugrappa said, the Congress-headed UPA Government with Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Prime Minister introduced MGNREGA in 2005 in order to provide employment to the rural masses. "But now, PM Modi-led NDA Government has not only replaced the scheme with VB-G RAM G, but also changed the very nature and character of the scheme itself, which has deprived the rural population of jobs. As per the new Act, it is not the Gram Panchayats which decide on jobs, but the Union Government itself, which is ridiculous," he maintained.

Accusing PM Modi of not fulfilling the pre-election promises, Ugrappa said, however, the Union Government's only achievement seems to be changing the names of schemes, programmes and projects of the previous Congress-led UPA Government.

"The new Act aims to rob the Panchayats of their autonomy. The BJP is doing everything to remove Gandhi-Ambedkar ideologies from the minds of the people and instil Mahatma Gandhi assassin Godse's mindset among the people," he said while questioning Modi when the 'Achhe Din' that he had promised in the run up to elections would come.

MLC Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah, in his address, targeted the Centre and said that the VB-G RAM G scheme is going to deprive the rural population of their right to jobs. Asserting that the Modi Government has ignored the poor and the downtrodden, he said that the Congress will always stand for the poor.

He further said, the Centre has allotted only Rs. 95,000 crore for the implementation of VB-G RAM G scheme in the Budget, when actually the scheme needed Rs. 2.35 lakh crore, which exposes the hollow claims of the Centre.

Prior to the start of the dharna, floral tributes were offered to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Gandhi Square.

District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, MLAs Tanveer Sait, K. Harishgowda, Darshan Dhruvanarayan and D. Ravishankar, MLC Dr. D. Thimmaiah, State Guarantee Schemes Implementation Monitoring Authority Vice-Chairperson Dr. Pushpa Amarnath, City Congress President R. Murthy, District President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, former Minister Kote M. Shivanna, former MLAs M.K. Somashekar and G.N. Nanjundaswamy, party leaders Nagesh, AHINDA Javarappa, Eshwar Chakkadi and K. Mahesh were present.

Resembles Municipal Corporation Budget, claims CM Siddaramaiah

Bengaluru, Feb. 2 (Agencies)- Criticising the Union Budget, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said, it resembled a Municipal Corporation Budget and termed it the most disappointing Budget he has seen in his political career.

The CM said that in the 2025-26 Budget, the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had promised an allocation of Rs. 5.41 lakh crore for Union Government-sponsored schemes. "However, in the current Budget, this allocation has been reduced to Rs. 4.2 lakh crore," he said.

Referring to the announcement of two high-speed rail projects — Hyderabad-Bengaluru and Chennai-Bengaluru — the CM claimed these projects would offer little benefit to Karnataka as they do not cover long distances within the State.

Nirmala Sitharaman *Siddaramaiah*

"If the Union Government really wanted to help Karnataka, it should have announced Bengaluru-Mumbai and Bengaluru-Mangaluru high-speed rail projects," he said.

Siddaramaiah also alleged that Finance Minister Sitharaman had relied on the same clichéd phrases while presenting the Budget, which, he said, reflected the Union Government's inability to chart the right direction for the country's development.

The CM further pointed out that there was no discussion on the devaluation of the rupee or measures to address it.

He claimed that foreign investment was declining, imports were rising and exports were falling, but the Budget failed to address these concerns. Instead, benefits to exporters had been curtailed, he alleged.

Siddaramaiah also noted that the urea subsidy had been reduced from Rs. 1.26 lakh crore to Rs. 1.16 lakh crore, while allocations for nutrient-based programmes had also been cut.

Despite the Union Government's claims of strengthening the defence sector, he claimed that allocations for the aircraft division had been reduced from Rs. 72,780 crore to Rs. 63,734 crore.

Shab-e-Barath tomorrow

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (KS)- Muslim brethren will be celebrating Shab-e-Barath (Night of Forgiveness) tomorrow evening in city. Special prayers will be arranged in various Mosques following which Ulmas will deliver lecture on Fazilath Shab-e-Bharath.

Muslim brethren will visit the graveyards at midnight and offer floral tribute to the departed souls. On this occasion, Salath-e-Isha (Night Prayer) have been arranged by various Management Committees and the Masjid Namaz Isha timings are as follows:

9 pm: Masjid Firdose at Bannimantap C Layout; Masjid Ajju at Ajju Nagar in Kesare and others; **9.15 pm:** Hali Meamoon Jamath Masjid on Vinoba Road in Shivarampet and others; **9.30 pm:** Masjid-e-Syed Ahmed at S.A. Layout in Rajivnagar, Masjid Madeenath-ul-Munawara at R.S. Naidu Nagar, Masjid Moulana Peer, inside Mulim Burial Grounds, Masjid Khair-ul-Wara at Rajivnagar 2nd Stage, Masjid-ya-Rasool Allaha at Rajivnagar 1st Stage, Masjid Munawara at R.S. Naidu Nagar and others; **10 pm:** Masjid-e-Azam on Ashoka Road, Masjid Rehamathiya at Shanthinagar, Masjid Showda-ul-Badar (One Minaret) at Shanthinagar, Masjid Shahi at Lashkar Mohalla, Masjid Akbarie at Haleemnagar, Masjid Meer Hayath Saheb on K.T. Street, Masjid Mecca at Rajivnagar, Masjid Omer Sha at Bada Makan, Masjid Ya-Rub at Kalyanagiri, Masjid Eidgah on Mission Hospital Road, Jamiya Masjid on Irwin Road, Dargahi Masjid on Sawday Road, Masjid Kathoon Janaith at Belawatha, Masjid Moula Ali at Ghousianagar, Masjid Khairun Nisa at Ajju Nagar in Kesare, Masjid Nawab Saheb at Chamaraja Mohalla, Masjid Feel Khana at Fort Mohalla, Masjid Khadriya at Nanjumalige, Masjid Atha at Ajju Nagar in Kesare, Masjid Rehamaniya, near Silk Factory in Mysuru South, Tippu Masjid at Bannimantap 2nd Stage, Masjid Moula Hussain at Sathyanagar and others; **10.30 pm:** Masjid Bismillah at Bharath Nagar, Masjid Aqsa, near Fountain Circle, Masjid Ya-Mustafa at Udayagiri, Madeena Masjid at Muslim Block in Kyathamaranahalli, Masjid Shaik Abdul Khadar Jeelani at Shrinagar and others.

The President and Management Committee of Masjid Hali Meamoon Jamath at Shivarampet have stated that Iftar (Dusk Feast) has been arranged for fasting person after Namaz Magrib in the Masjid premises.

FLEETING THOUGHTS

Shoes Inside or Outside ?

By Sujata Rajpal

Three decades ago, in my parents' house in Chandigarh, once we hovered in quiet delight over a new carpet, beige, strewn with blue floral patterns. It lent a touch of grandeur to our modest living room.

Outside, rain had been falling since morning, turning the streets into a churn of mud and slush. That afternoon, my father's friends arrived unannounced. They shook off the umbrellas they were carrying, walked in with their shoes like always, settled in with plates of pakoras and steaming cups of tea, talked and laughed and left as casually as they had come.

In their wake remained the evidence of their visit: muddy footprints, dark and unmistakable, stamped across the new blue-and-beige carpet. We stared at them in dismay. Yet, no matter how deeply we resented those marks or how fervently we cursed our guests later, it was unthinkable to ask guests to leave their shoes at the door.

Such a request would have felt like an affront, humiliating, inhospitable and a violation of the unspoken codes of welcome we had grown up with.

Twenty-five years ago, when I made Mysuru my home, the first cultural shock was the practice of removing footwear before entering someone's house. Up north, such a practice was unheard of.

Even house helpers entered the houses they worked in wearing their flip-flops; they swept, mopped, washed bathrooms and left, their chappals leaving marks on the wet floor.

In Mysuru, at first, we found it offensive when asked to remove our shoes before entering someone's home. It felt like we were being asked to strip. This was the story I carried back home when I visited my parents during the kids' summer vacations and folks there listened with astonishment and anguish.

The kids adapted quickly. They never liked wearing shoes anyway. My husband chose his footwear for the evening based on whether he'd be asked to remove shoes.

The issue with me was different. Why buy and wear stylish sandals to someone's house when they would be left outside and no one would even get to see my stilettos? With my shoes left outside the door, I feared that I might not find them there when we left.

The no-shoes-inside ritual was not just confined to homes but extended to shops, offices and doctors' clinics as well. There were boards outside saying, 'Remove Shoes Outside.' Houses were understandable, but why shops and clinics? Well, it's common sense, something we took a while to understand.

Removing shoes outside keeps the house clean and hygienic. Dirty bacteria don't enter the home through footwear. There's nothing offensive about it. It took time, but we grew to appreciate the habit of taking off shoes outside.

South Indian houses sparkle clean because of this practice. And it's not just in South India; many countries like the US, Europe, Finland and Japan follow this custom, probably because their homes are carpeted.

We are still not used to walking barefoot at home, so we have separate footwear for indoor use only and another pair of flip flops exclusively for the terrace. So now, we are literally in the shoes of our adopted city, which we simply adore. And we expect our guests to follow this practice too, though we aren't bold enough to bluntly tell them to remove their shoes outside the door.

Last month, I hosted a party and knew the women guests would be wearing high heels and sarees and there was no way they'd be taking off their shoes. The thought of grime and bacteria touring my entire floor was mildly horrifying. So, my husband, who rarely meddles in my ways, had an idea. "Keep a few pairs of your footwear outside," he said. That way, when people arrive, they'll remove their shoes too. And yes, it worked. Because we humans possess this wonderful mob mentality. If others are doing it, so should we.

Mysuru-based author Sujata Rajpal's latest book 'Things Left Unsaid' has been longlisted for Kala Literature Award-2026 under short stories in English category. Kala (Krazy About Literature and Arts) is a Delhi-based organisation to promote and celebrate literature in English and other Indian languages. Winners will be announced during Kala Lit Fest on Feb. 7 and 8.

State Transport Corporations restrict ads of Tobacco products

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (PM&TRR)- Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy has ordered a State-wide ban on direct and indirect tobacco product advertising across buses and bus stops managed by State Transport Corporations — Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), North West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) and Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC).

In a directive issued to the officials of the Corporations, the Minister has said that the new directive must be enforced immediately in public interest.

Ramalinga Reddy has also directed officials concerned to ensure such existing advertisements are removed within a fixed time frame.

Gold loan scam busted

(Continued from page 1)

Yogesh allegedly melted the pledged jewellery and sold the gold, thereby cheating around 15 customers.

The accused is alleged to have made away with about 850 grams of gold jewellery, valued at approximately Rs. 1.50 crore, before going into hiding. A case was subsequently registered and a manhunt was launched to trace him.

A case was registered in November 2025 at Vijayanagar Police Station under Crime No. 161/2025, invoking sections related to cheating and criminal breach of trust under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Sections 314, 316, 317, 316(2), 318(4), 319 and 3(5).

Despite several notices being issued directing him to cooperate with the investigation, Yogesh allegedly failed to appear and remained at large.

On Friday, the Police traced and arrested him, produced him before a Court and he was remanded to 14 days Judicial Custody, the Police said.

The Police have urged the public to remain vigilant against fraudulent schemes and to verify the credibility of financial institutions before pledging valuables.

Bank cheated of Rs. 56.78 lakh

(Continued from page 1)

The Police said that the accused continued their transactions with the bank even after pledging fake gold, without arousing suspicion.

The fraud came to light when the bank conducted a re-evaluation of the pledged gold on Jan. 14 through Ramesh, an external evaluator.

The matter was subsequently brought to the notice of the bank's management, following which a complaint was filed.

Devaraja Police have suspected the involvement of more persons in the case and are probing the role of the bank appraiser, including his communication with the other accused.

Devaraja Police Inspector Raghu, who is leading the investigation, had collected details from the Bank Manager and questioned the appraiser regarding the certification of fake gold as genuine before the FIR was filed. However, after the FIR was filed, all seven accused, including the bank appraiser, are said to be absconding.

Police said, efforts are on to trace and secure the accused.

STAR OF MYSORE

SPECIAL ISSUE

Star of Mysore is completing **48** years of service on **16th February 2026** and entering **49th** year of publication. As in the past, this year too we will be publishing a Special Issue.

We request our advertisers & patrons to release their advertisements before **5th February** to facilitate printing as per schedule.

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'Mummadi, Nalwadi eras richly patronised art of painting'

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (GA&BS)- Dr. C.S. Anupama, artist from Regional Institute of Education (RIE), Mysuru, has opined that 'the periods of reign of Mummadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar and Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar made significant contributions towards the growth of paintings.'

She was delivering a special lecture on 'Mysore Palace Paintings' organised by the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage, at its premises in Dasara Exhibition Grounds in the city recently.

Dr. Anupama said, Ambavilas Palace is the guide towards learning the history of paintings patronised by Mysore kingdom. The paintings introduce the precedent set by the artists of Vijayanagar era, along with modern and western styles.

"Vijayanagar kingdom patronised Surpur, Lepakshi, Tanjore, Ganjifa, Mysore and Kinnal styles of paintings. After the fall of Vijayanagar kingdom, Mysore kingdom emerged as the prominent destination for the artists. Hence, one can find the resemblance between Tanjore and Mysore style paintings, known for their intricate art works," said Dr. Anupama.

Ganjifa art that has its origin in Persia, adopted Mysore style and reached its peak during the rule of Nalwadi. The murals came into popularity, as the various parts of Mysore, especially the walls of the temples, served as the canvas to promote this very art, during Mummadi's rule. To cite an example, the walls of Prasanna Venugopalaswamy temple at Palace premises, are adorned with the paintings of Krishna Leele, she added.

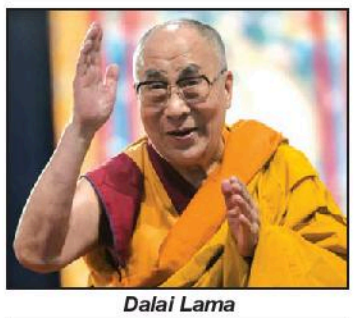
In the later years came renowned artists Shilpi Siddalinga Swamy and Raja Ravi Verma, who have made enormous contributions towards the growth of Mysore style painting.

"The ceiling of Mysore Palace is replete with the paintings of Shilpi Siddalinga Swamy, while the works of Raja Ravi Verma, introduces Gods and Goddesses and the members of royal family. The paintings at Mysore Palace are a blend of mythology and history, which should be acutely understood by the viewers," said Dr. Anupama.

A. Devaraju, Commissioner of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage Department said, the method of seeing and grasping the meaning of a painting is also an art. The study of history will be more beneficial in understanding a painting, to gain a better experience.

Veeranna Arkasali, HoD, Photography & Journalism, Chamarajendra Government College of Visual Arts (CAVA) and D.H. Ambreesh, Archaeological Conservation Engineer, were present.

Dalai Lama wins Grammy Award



Dalai Lama

Los Angeles, Feb.2 (UNI)- Tibetan Spiritual Leader Dalai Lama was honoured with his first Grammy Award for his audio book, '*Meditations: The Reflections of His Holiness The Dalai Lama*' at the prestigious 68th Grammy Awards held in Los Angeles yesterday. The album won in the category of Best Audio Book, Narration and Storytelling Recording.

The Dalai Lama had collaborated with Sarod Maestro Amjad Ali Khan and his sons, Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash, on the album, blending spoken word and music to celebrate universal values of peace, compassion, kindness and hope.

He won over nominees including *Elvis, Rocky & Me: The Carol Connors Story* by Kathy Garver, *Into the Uncut Grass* by Trevor Noah, *Lovely One: A Memoir* by Ketanji Brown Jackson and *You Know It's True: The Real Story of Milli Vanilli* by Fab Morvan.

In a statement shared by his office, the Dalai Lama said, "I receive this recognition with gratitude and humility. I don't see it as something personal, but as a recognition of our shared universal responsibility. I truly believe that peace, compassion, care for our environment and an understanding of the oneness of humanity are essential for the collective well-being of all eight billion human beings. I'm grateful that this Grammy recognition can help spread these messages more widely."

Hate Speech Bill

Governor rejects assent; sends it to President

Gehlot

Murmu

Bengaluru, Feb. 2 (Agencies) - Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has rejected his assent to Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crime (Prevention) Bill, 2025 and has forwarded it for the consideration of President Droupadi Murmu.

According to sources, the Governor has stated, "I hereby exercising the powers under Articles 200, 201 and 254 of the Constitution of India, reserve the Bill LA No. 79/2025 i.e., The Karantaka Hate Speech and Hate Crime (Prevention) Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 79 of 2025) for the kind consideration and assent of the President of India citing that there was need for more deliberations into the Bill."

The Lok Bhavan (previously Raj Bhavan) had also received about 40 representations against the proposed Bill. The Hate Speech Bill passed during December, 2025 Winter Session of State Legislature in Belagavi, defines hate speech as any verbal, written or electronic expression intended to cause disharmony, hatred or injury based on religion, race, caste, gender, sexual orientation, place of birth or disability.

Additionally, the Bill authorised the State Government to block or remove online content deemed to be hateful and also prescribed a strict penalty of 1 to 7 years imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50,000 for the first offence and Rs. One lakh fine with imprisonment up to 2 to 10 years for the repeat offences under the provision aligned with Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Sections 196 (1) and 196 (2).

The offences were also considered cognisable and non-bailable and triable by Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) Court. It also mandated adequate compensation for the victims.

BJP blames Congress for drug seizure cover-up in Mysuru

Bengaluru, Feb. 2 (KMS&DM)- The State BJP has criticised Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwar for what it called careless remarks regarding the NCB's (Narcotics Control Bureau) recent raids in Mysuru, which unearthed a major drug racket.

Pointing out that the NCB had released a press note on its operations in Mysuru — during which it busted a narcotics manufacturing unit and seized drugs worth over Rs. 10 crore — the BJP alleged that the Home Minister and Mysuru City Police Commissioner had misled the public by claiming that the seized materials were not drugs.

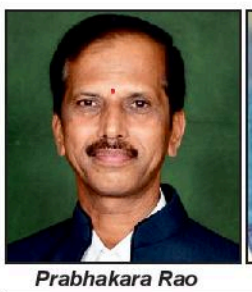
BJP leaders further claimed that major cities in the State, including Bengaluru and Mysuru, were turning into drug hubs. They cited recent raids conducted by Maharashtra and Gujarat Police in Karnataka as evidence of the Karnataka Police's incompetence and inefficiency.

Reiterating that Dr. Parameshwar and Mysuru City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar had denied any drug seizure in Mysuru by the NCB, the BJP alleged that the Congress Government was attempting to hush up narcotics seizure cases reported by central agencies and the Police from other States.

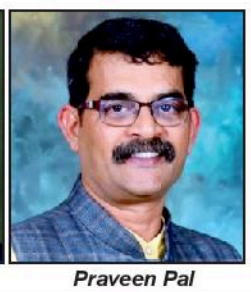
The party also expressed concern over a raid conducted by Mysuru South Police at a house on the city outskirts, during which opium was reportedly discovered.

Alleging that Karnataka was fast becoming "Udta Karnataka," the BJP said that law and order under the Congress government had collapsed, reflecting poor and incompetent governance.

New team of Builders' Association of India, Mysore Centre



Prabhakara Rao



Praveen Pal

Shashiraj

Mysuru, Feb. 2- The following are the new office-bearers and Executive Committee of Builders' Association of India (BAI), Mysore Centre, for the year 2026-2027:

Chairman: K.R. Prabhakara Rao; Vice-Chairman: C. D. Krishna; Hon. Secretary: M. D. Praveen Pal; Hon. Joint Secretary: G. Ashok; Hon. Treasurer: S. Shashiraj; Imm. Past Chairman: V. Srinath.

GC Members: K. Sriram and N.S. Muralidhara; EC Members: M.S. Balaji, Bhargav V. Shinde, C.U. Divakar, T.S. Gurudatta, K.L. Gururaj, K. C. Nandakumar, V. Mohan Kumar, K. M. Raghunath, R. Ramesh Rao, K. N. Ravishankar, D. Srihari, C.S. Srikanth, S.H. Srinivas, S. Vasudevan and M. V. Vinod Kumar.

Natl. Pranayama Conference

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (GA&DM)- The Scientific Pranayama Foundation Trust, Mysuru, has organised a 2-day National Conference on Pranayama - Bharat 2026 at ATME College of Engineering on Bannur road in city outskirts on Mar. 12 and 13.

Announcing this at a press meet here recently, Dr. Devaki Madhav, Organiser and Founder President of the Trust, said that ATME Founder and Chairman L. Arunkumar, Yoga promoters Abhiman Madhav, N.R. Seetha Ramesh, K. Shivashankar, R. Veeresh and others will be the chief guests. Only 300 participants will be permitted. For details, those interested may contact Mob: 94494-06844 or visit *https://scientificpranayama.co.in/blog*

JSS Public School holds 31st Annual Day

Mysuru, Feb. 2- JSS Public School, JP Nagar, Mysuru, celebrated its Annual Day with great enthusiasm recently.

K.R. Santhanam, retired IAS Officer and Director of Accounts and Audit, JSS Mahavidyapeetha, Mysuru; Uday Kumar, Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Mysuru; D.R. Amith, Reader, College of Teacher Education, Vasanth Mahal, Mysuru; Ashok Palya, Deputy Director, Public School Division, JSS Mahavidyapeetha, Mysuru; Malangi Suresh, Vice-President, Karnataka State Government Employees Division, Bengaluru and K. Suresh, Assistant Deputy Coordinator, DDPI Office, Mysuru, were present.

School's faculty S. Rajeshwari welcomed. Principal S.N. Archana presented the annual report.

Sujatha, Coordinator of Co-Curricular Activities, presented a comprehensive overview of the school's CCA activities. The Annual Day culminated in a prize distribution ceremony, where awards were presented to academic achievers, sports champions and winners of CCA competitions.

Uday Kumar, Deputy Director of Public Instruction, appreciated the school for its consistent milestones and opportunities.

D.R. Amith highlighted the vital role of parents in a child's development and stressed the need for a balance between discipline and affection.

Ashok Palya appreciated the school team and emphasised the importance of guiding students toward the right courses, learning pathways and career opportunities.

K.R. Santhanam said modern education should encourage self-expression along with academic learning.

The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Grade 10 student Chaithanya Mahesh.

The formal function was followed by a vibrant cultural programme, with impressive performances by students from LKG to Grade 10, showcasing their talents and creativity, making the event a memorable one.

Vocal concert on Feb. 8

Vid. Abhishek *Vidu. Smitha* *Vid. Kishore* *Vid. Sumukh*

Mysuru, Feb. 2 - Raaga Vaibhava Charitable Trust, Mysuru, has organised a grand Karnatak vocal concert by renowned vocalist **Vid. Abhishek Raghuram** at Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha on JLB Road in city on Feb. 8 at 6 pm.

He will be accompanied by **Vidu. H.M. Smitha** on violin, **Vid. Kishore Ramesh** on mridanga and **Vid. Sumukh Karanth** on kanjira.

Vid. Abhishek started out as a mridanga player under the tutelage of his grandfather Palghat R. Raghu but later, on his grandmother's insistence, he went for vocal training. Initially he trained under his mother Usha. From 1994, he began taking lessons from P.S. Narayanaswamy. After completing his B.Sc in mathematics he joined for his Master's in Computer Science but later abandoned it to pursue music.

Vidu. Smitha trained under violinists H.K. Narasimha Murthy, Vidu. H.N. Rajalakshmi and Vid. H.N. Bhaskar. Smitha is an 'A' grade artiste of AIR and her sister Sindhu Suchetan is also a prominent Karnatak musician.

Vid. Kishore Ramesh is an AIR 'A Grade' artiste trained under his father R. Ramesh.

Vid. Sumukh is a dedicated kanjira and mridanga artiste trained in traditional techniques with modern touch.

Kalavaibhava: 11th Anniversary of Seshadripuram PU College

Mysuru, Feb. 2- Seshadripuram Independent Pre-University College, Outer Ring Road, Hebbal, Mysuru, celebrated its 11th Annual Day 'Kalavaibhava' at its Kuvempu Rangamandira recently.

Chief guest K. Suchendra Prasad, renowned film artiste, director and President of 'Voicing Silence', who inaugurated the event, emphasised the importance of learning from history and acquiring deep knowledge from the institution. He also stressed the values of respecting elders, reflecting Indian culture and focusing on holistic growth beyond academics.

Hon. Treasurer B.M. Parthasarathy presided. Chairman B.A. Anantaram, Joint Secretary Sheshanarayan, Trustees Krishna Swamy and W.H. Ashok, Life Member N.N. Anil Kumar and Seshadripuram Degree College Principal Dr. K. Sowmya Erappa were present.

Principal of PU College N. Archana Swamy welcomed. The best outgoing students in Academics, NSS volunteers and National sports achievers were felicitated. The event concluded with dance, drama and songs by the students.

City's Telugu Samskritika Samithi felicitates 'Millet Man of India'

Padma Shri ***awardee and 'Millet Man of India' Dr. Khadar Valli being felicitated by Telugu Samskritika Samithi, Mysuru, during Sankranti celebrations at its premises in Ramakrishnanagar. Dr. Khadar later addressed the gathering on the importance of millets for healthy life. Samithi President P. Krishna Reddy, Secretary SVS Sreeram and Samithi Members working in RMP, CFTRI, Railways and RBI were present. The Samithi also conducted Rangoli and Bharatanatyam competitions.***

68th International Nirantara Kalemane Festival held

The students of Aradhana Institute of Performing Arts, Bengaluru, under the guidance of Guru Vidu. S. Aparna, presenting a dance-drama at Kalemane Sabhaangana in Hebbal 2nd Stage on Jan. 25 as part of the 68th International Nirantara Kalemane Festival of Kumar Performing Arts Centre (KPAC), Mysuru. Picture right shows Vidu. B.R. Vindya of Vedya Dance Academy, Bengaluru, performing on the occasion.

Annual Day celebrated at Champaka

Champaka Academy, city's renowned Preschool and Activity Centre, celebrated its Annual Day at Champaka Sabhangana recently. Picture shows Champaka Academy Founder Dr. Nagalakshmi Nagarajan and Trustee Nagarajan lighting the lamp as Trustee Deepamani and Centre Head Roopa look on. Students performed vibrant cultural dances, songs, drama and more.

Prize winners of Raghava Lingegowda Memorial Golf Open Championship

Mysuru, Feb.2- Following are the prize winners of Raghava Lingegowda Memorial Golf Open Championship-2025 held at J.W. Golf Club in city on Jan. 24 and 25:

Strokeplay Gross: M. Arjun Ranga (75 Gross) - Winner (Better Back 9 Over I.K. Ponappa); I.K. Ponappa (75 Gross) - Runner.

Strokeplay Net (H/C 0 to 12): Tanuush S. Kumar (67 Net) - Winner (Better Back 9 Over T.N. Shashi Kumar); T.N. Shashi Kumar (67 Net) - Runner.

Strokeplay Net (H/C 13 to 18): Supreeth Raj (62 Net) - Winner; Gp. Capt. Satish Kumar Nair (66 Net) - Runner.

Stableford Net (H/C 0 to 18): Abdul Fatah (40 Points) - Winner (Better Back 9 Over Sunil Kothari & Dr. T.M. Prashanth); Sunil Kothari (40 Points) - Runner (Better Back 6 Over Dr. T.M. Prashanth).

Stableford Net (H/C 19 to 24): Mari Gowda (40 Points) - Winner (Better Back 9 Over Rokhith Aswa); Rokhith Aswa (40 Points) - Runner (Better Back 6 Over Kaushal Prabhu).

Stableford Net (H/C 0 to 24) for Seniors - 65 Years & Above: A. Anantha (39 Points) - Winner; Prabhakar K. Appaiah (36 Points) - Runner (Better Back 9 Over Dr. Anthony Fernandes).

Stableford Net (H/C 0 to 24) for Super Seniors - 75 Years & Above: Dr. Anthony Fernandes (36 Points) - Winner.

Best Lady Golfer Stableford Net (H/C 0 to 30): Ashika Kushalappa (38 Points) - Winner.

Nearest to the Pin - 2nd Hole: Vinay Natarajan (2 Feet 2 Inches) - Winner.

Nearest to the Pin - 15th Hole: Arun Srinivas (5 Feet 2 Inches) - Winner.

A total of 227 golf players took part in the Championship, sponsored by family & friends of Raghava Lingegowda, according to a press release from JWGC Tournament Committee Chairman Phalguna V. Urs and JWGC Hon. Secretary K.S. Sudheer Bhat.

*A group photo of the prize winners of Raghava Lingegowda Memorial Golf Open Championship-2025 held at J.W. Golf Club in city on Jan. 24 and 25. Seen are (sitting from left) **JWGC Tournament Committee Chairman Phalguna V. Urs, Hon. Secretary K.S. Sudheer Bhat, Captain M.S. Yeshwanth, President H.S. Arun Kumar, Anohitha Raghava, Narendra Lingegowda, Hon. Treasurer D.V. Sridhar;** (kneeling) **Easha Raghava and Vivan Raghava;** (standing from left) **Supreeth Raj, Vinay Natarajan, Abdul Fatah, Sunil Kothari, Arun Srinivas, Arjun M. Ranga, A. Anantha, Tanuush S. Kumar, Marigowda, T.N. Shashi Kumar, Ashika Kushalappa, Gp. Capt. Satish Kumar Nair, Dr. Anthony Fernandes, Rokhith Aswa and Prabhakar K. Appaiah.***

South Zone Inter-University Women's Cricket Tournament

University of Mysore women's cricket team emerges runner-up

University of Mysore women's cricket team receiving the runner-up trophy from the dignitaries at K.S. Rangasamy College of Technology in Tiruchengode, Tamil Nadu, yesterday.

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (VNS)- University of Mysore women's cricket team ended up as runners-up in the South Zone Inter-University Women's Cricket Tournament losing the finals against University of Madras by 8 wickets in the match held at K.S. Rangasamy College of Technology in Tiruchengode, Tamil Nadu yesterday.

The tournament was organised by Anna University.

Having put into bat first, University of Mysore helped by J. Deeksha 33 (36) and M. Sadhana 31(21) managed to score 128/7 in 20 overs.

Roshini Rajashekaran picked up three wickets giving away 23 runs and K.B. Vamshi scalped two wickets giving away 28 runs. Needing 129 runs to win, University of Madras scored 130 in 15.5 overs losing just two wickets.

Anurakini top scored with 59 (49) while Roshini Rajashekaran scored 34 (24) not out. Roshini Rajashekaran of University of Madras was declared as 'Player of the Match' and M.D. Afrah Muskan of SRM University, Madras, as 'Player of the Tournament.'

The top four teams — University of Madras, University of Mysore, SRM University, Chennai and University of Calicut — have qualified to take part in the All India Inter-University Women's Cricket Tournament to be hosted by University of Calicut later this year.

WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE

TOMORROW'S MATCH (FEB. 3)
ELIMINATOR

GG Vs **DC**

Venue: BCA Stadium, Vadodara
Time: 7.30 pm

YESTERDAY'S RESULT (FEB. 1)

UPW 122/8 (20 overs)
LOST TO
DC 126/5 (18.4 overs)

Live action on: **JioHotstar & Star Sports Network**

Annual Sports Day held at Nypunya School

Mysuru, Feb. 2 (PM&VNS)- Sports plays a pivotal role in developing skills and personality to face challenges and to work in groups, said Superintendent of Police (retd.) Shankare Gowda, here recently.

Speaking after inaugurating the Annual Sports Day of Nypunya School at Chamundi Vihar Stadium, he said that sports not only purified the body and soul but also strengthened it physically.

"Sports also acts as a platform for students to achieve in their field of interest. Students should get inspired from great personalities such as Swami Vivekananda, Mahatma Gandhi, APJ Abdul Kalam among others. They need to also take losses as a positive step to achieve success in the future," he advised.

Former Karnataka Exhibition Authority Chairman B.P. Manjunath distributed prizes to winners during the valedictory ceremony. A total of 650 students took part in the annual sports meet. The school had organised sports for the parents of the students also.

Nypunya School of Excellence Chairman R. Raghu, Principal M.N. Mahendra, Vice-Principal Shalini Majo, Education Co-ordinator Reshma Rai, teaching and non-teaching staff were present on the occasion.

WORD OF THE DAY

Short shrift

Pronunciation: SHORT-SHRIFT (Noun)

Meaning: Short shrift means "little or no attention or thought" or "quick work." In religious use it refers to barely adequate time for confession before execution.

Origin: The earliest known use of the phrase comes from Shakespeare's play Richard III, in which Lord Hastings, who has been condemned by King Richard to be beheaded, is told by Sir Richard Ratcliffe to "Make a short shrift" as the king "longs to see your head." Although now archaic, the noun shrift was understood in Shakespeare's time to refer to the confession or absolution of sins, so "make a short shrift" meant, quite literally, "keep your confession short." However, since at least the 19th century the phrase has been used figuratively to refer to a small or inadequate amount of time or attention given to something.

Example: "[Charlie] Caplinger echoed the concerns of many speakers at the meeting, with charter captains saying the recreational fishing industry's economic contributions were being given short shrift." —Mike Smith, NOLA.com (New Orleans, Louisiana), 6 Nov. 2025.

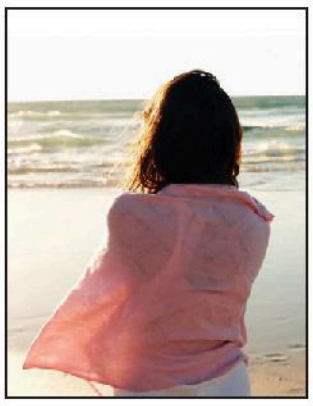
THE ODD WORD

Yabba

Large Jamaican earthenware or wooden vessel.

IDIOM OF THE DAY

Dry Spell



Meaning: To go through a 'dry spell' is to spend a period of time without something that is needed, or without something one is accustomed to or desires.

Origin: Everyone has experienced dry spells now and then. The origin of idiom 'dry spell' is believed to be the late 1800s or early 1900s, though no one is certain when the phrase was first used. What is known is that the word 'spell' was first used to indicate a period of time sometime around 1845.

Example: "Sam is a great salesman, though lately he's been having a bit of a dry spell."

QUOTE BOX

If you aren't fired with enthusiasm, you will be fired with enthusiasm.

—Vince Lombardi

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Breakfast.

SUDOKU

1					8			
8			1	2			3	
9	2		3		7			
		9					7	4
	5						6	
4	3					9		
			7		4		2	1
	9			6	3			8
			2					5

Answer to previous puzzle

1	5	3	9	6	2	8	7	4
9	4	6	7	8	1	2	5	3
7	8	2	3	4	5	6	1	9
3	2	4	8	9	7	1	6	5
5	1	8	2	3	6	9	4	7
6	7	9	5	1	4	3	8	2
8	9	7	6	5	3	4	2	1
2	3	1	4	7	8	5	9	6
4	6	5	1	2	9	7	3	8

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

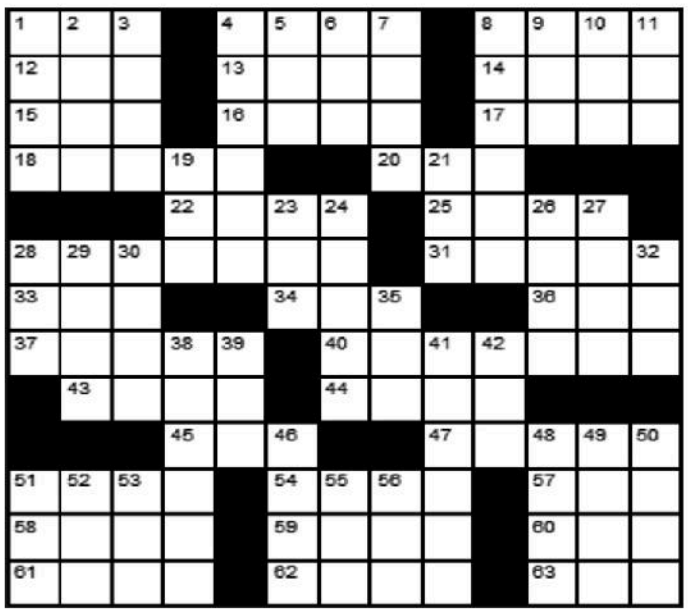
1 American Medical Association, acronym
4 City in Gujarat
8 Irish county
12 An assertion of one's existence, one says it! (1,2)
13 Once -___ : a rapid preliminary inspection?
14 A board game
15 Black bird
16 Intl. Air Transp. Assoc.
17 Extended piece for a solo voice in an opera
18 Relating to gold
20 City in NW Iran
22 Banjo maestro ___ Fleck
25 Accountants in US in short
28 Gradual assimilation
31 Gray
33 Chafe
34 High tech fingerprint
36 Western alliance: abbr.
37 Rosary pieces
40 Attendant, assistant
43 Invitation request
44 Microbe
45 Acorn bearer
47 Useful quality
51 Afrikaner
54 Revise copy
57 Grandmaster's rating
58 Eye part
59 Strong wind - that might break "a leg"?
60 Pixy, for one
61 Use language
62 Arctic transport
63 Drowsy state produced by bhang etc.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

N	O	M		C	U	B	A			I	B	A
T	R	I		O	V	A	T	E		S	U	B
H	E	S		L	E	G	I	T		A	D	A
		F	E	T	A			H	O	A	D	
A	L	I	A			S	N	I	T	C	H	
W	A	T	T		E	P	I	C	S			
E	D	S		E	M	I	T	S		B	U	G
			F	U	M	E	S		G	E	N	E
	W	I	R	R	A	L			U	N	I	T
	A	G	I	O			S	T	Y	E		
A	G	L		P	A	B	L	O		G	Y	P
N	E	O		A	R	I	E	L		A	E	S
I	S	O			T	O	D	D		L	S	I

DOWN

1 Amer Inst. of Aeronautics and Astronautics
2 2024 Olympics bronze medallist ___ Bhaker
3 Rich man in the Middle East?
4 Expresses or verbalizes
5 Actress Gardner
6 Especially cherished or indulged
7 Dessert Storm place?
8 Bolts, clasps or padlocks
9 Mine and thine
10 Radio Direction Indicator, acronym
11 Hawaiian tree
19 Nigerian tribe
21 Wood sorrel
23 Cover
24 An unforeseen obstacle (1,4)
26 Sailor's call
27 Take it if you're tired of standing
28 Globe or eyeball
29 Plaintiff - "ruse" anagram?
30 Business degrees
32 Natl. Stock Exchg.
35 Unbeatable serve
38 New World Symphony composer
39 A resort with a mineral spring
41 Spoke or talked in public
42 London, Midland and Scottish
46 Small casks
48 Search for
49 Fashion magazine
50 Upper-class gent
51 On the other hand
52 Egg cells
53 Long fish
55 Indian dish
56 French island



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

RQGRPQ BUPP PUNIQJ E YOQEI HQEP VGOQ

REIUQJIPA BCQJ AGL QZRPEUJ AGLO VUNIEWQN

ICEJ BCQJ AGL QZRPEUJ AGLO NLDDQNN.

TODAY'S CLUE: N EQUALS S

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: The greatest test of courage on earth is to bear defeat without losing heart.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** Ph: 2520494
  Cult (2026) (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** Ph: 2521923
  Mankatha (Ta) - *4 Shows*
- **Woodlands Theatre** Ph: 2422871
  Landlord (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** Mob: 99008-20093
  45 (K) - *4 Shows*
- **Gayathri Theatre** Ph: 2443568
  Landlord (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** Mob: 98454-14691
  Mavuta (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** Ph: 2420885
  Raktha Kashmira (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** Ph: 2423554
  Draupathi 2 (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** Mob: 98863-25207
  Border 2 (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Mardaani 3 (H)	(S-1)	10.10 am, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Cult 2026 (K)	(S-1)	1 pm
Send Help (E-3D)	(S-1)	4.30 pm; (S-2) 9.55 pm
Valavaara (K)	(S-2)	10.45 am
Mavuta (K)	(S-2)	1.15 pm
Gandhi Talks (Ta)	(S-2)	4.15 pm, 7.05 pm
Raktha Kashmira (K)	(S-3)	10.35 am
Seat Edge (K)	(S-3)	1.30 pm
Sri Jagannatha Dasaru Part 2 (K)	(S-3)	4.15 pm
Chowkidar (K)	(S-3)	7.15 pm
Valathu Vashathe Kallan (Ma)	(S-3)	10.15 pm
Landlord (K)	(S-4)	12.30 pm, 3.35 pm
Border 2 (H)	(S-4)	6.40 pm, 10.30 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Raktha Kashmira (K)	(S-1)	1.10 pm, 6.50 pm
Amruthaanjan (K)	(S-1)	3.55 pm
Prakambanam (Ma)	(S-1)	9.30 pm
Border 2 (H)	(S-2)	1.15 pm, 7.30 pm
	(S-3)	9.15 pm
Cult (K)	(S-3)	1.30 pm, 6.10 pm
Landlord (K)	(S-4)	1.20 pm, 4.25 pm, 7.30 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Mardaani 3 (H)	:	9.05 am, 1.05 pm, 3.45 pm 7.45 pm, 9.50 pm
Border 2 (H)	:	9.10 am, 11.50 am, 3.50 pm 6.05 pm 10.30 pm
Raktha Kashmira (K)	:	9.10 am, 6.30 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	10.05 am
Send Help (E-3D)	:	10.45 am, 3.35 pm, 10 pm
Shelter (E)	:	11.25 am, 7.45 pm
Cult (2026) (K)	:	12.30 pm, 10.25 pm
Mayasabha - The Hall of Illusion (H)	:	1.15 pm
Amruthaanjan (K)	:	1.50 pm
Valavaara (K)	:	2.10 pm
Landlord (K)	:	3.50 pm, 7.05 pm
Prakambanam (Ma)	:	4.40 pm
Gandhi Talks (Silent)	:	5 pm
Valathu Vasathe Kallan (Ma)	:	7.25 pm
Marty Supreme (E)	:	10.10 pm
Chatha Pacha: The ring of Rowdies (Ma)	:	10.20 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Border 2 (H)	:	9.25 am, 12.50 pm 3.50 pm 10.30 pm
Cult (2026) (K)	:	9.45 am, 3.35 pm, 6.55 pm
Send Help (E-2D)	:	9.50 am
Send Help (E-3D)	:	7.30 pm
Mardaani 3 (H)	:	10.05 am, 1.05 pm, 4.45, 7.45 pm 10 pm
Landlord (K)	:	12.20 pm, 10.15 pm
Raktha Kashmira (K)	:	12.50 pm, 10.20 pm
Chowkidar (K)	:	4.10 pm
Amruthaanjan (K)	:	7.10 pm

79th Jathra Mahotsava concludes with *Utsava* and *Uyyalotsava*

Chief Priest H.S. Subramanya Shastri performing aarti during Uyyalotsava at Sri Ellammambha Chandraguptambha Temple in Mandi Mohalla yesterday.

Mysuru, Feb. 2- As part of the 79th Jathra Mahotsava organised by Sri Ellammambha Chandraguptambha Charitable Trust at Sri Ellammambha Chandraguptambha Temple in Mandi Mohalla, Sri Deviyavara Utsava was taken out on the main thoroughfares of the area yesterday.

It was followed by Uyyalotsava at the temple under the guidance of Chief Priest H.S. Subramanya Shastri.

Today (Feb. 2), Sri Satyanarayanaswamy Puja was held at the Temple in the morning and Sri Deviyavaru will be brought down from the Uyyale at 7 pm followed by Mahamangalarati and Prasada Viniyoga.

EVENTS TODAY (FEB. 2)

- **Elder Citizens Council, Jayalakshmipuram:** Monthly series of Health Talk, lecture on 'Naturopathy Treatment' by Dr. H.L. Nanjesh Gowda of Ambara Wellness Clinic, Bogadi, Dr. H.M. Nagaraju, President of the Council, presides, Sarswathi Samudaya Bhavana, **5 pm.** [Mob: 99804-12406]
- **Shree Nataraja Performing Arts Centre (SNPAC), Mysuru:** Inauguration of 'Manjira Mahotsava-2026,' 3-day Annual Cultural Festival, Prof. Nagesh V. Bettakote, VC, KSGH Music & Performing Arts University, inaugurates, H.R. Bhagavan, Secretary, Hari Vidayala and Mahathi Vijayprakash, Creative Director, VP Culture Club and Partner at Dvaar Music, chief guests, danseuse Dr. Kripa Phadke, Founder-Director of Nrityagiri Academy of Performing Arts and Research Centre, Mysuru and M.K. Balaraju, President, SNPAC, will be present, **5.45 pm;** Bharatanatyam by Vid. Dr. T.S. Sagar, Tumakuru, **6 pm;** Mohiniyattam by Kalamandalam Suchithra Anil, Mysuru, Ganabharathi's Ramagovinda Kalavedike, Kuvempunagar, **7.30 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** 39th year's Purandara and Tyagaraja Aradhana, Karnatak Classical Music Concert Series, veena recital by Rakshitha Ramesha, accompanied by K. Vishnuvardhana on mridanga and Karthik Pranav on morching, Sri Vinayaka Temple, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Rajarajeshwari Nilaya:** Sri Yellamma Thayi Ammanavara Puja Mahotsava, Special Puja, Prasada Viniyoga, Sri Rajarajeshwari Nilaya, K.R. Mohalla, **6 pm.**
- **Sanchalana Mysuru:** Decennial Celebrations, folk songs by Namma Raga troupe; Staging of play 'Du - Rodhana' by Vruttiranga troupe, Bengaluru, directed by Ganapathy Gowda, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Ellammambha Chandraguptambha Charitable Trust:** 79th Jathra Mahotsava, Sri Deviyavaru will be brought down from Uyyale, Sri Ellammambha Chandraguptambha Temple premises, Mandi Mohalla, **7 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (FEB. 3)

- **Abhivruddhi:** Silk India-2026, a grand display and sale of exquisite silk, cotton and handloom sarees, Nanjaraja Bahaddur Choultry, Vinobha Road, **10.30 am to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sanchalana Mysuru, Mysuru:** Sanchalana Decennial Celebrations, staging of play 'Oora Suttaru Hanumappa Horaga' by Saranta, Mahajana First Grade College, directed by K.R. Sumathi, **11 am;** Theatre Songs by Namma Raga troupe; Staging of play 'Harakeya Kuri' by Sanchalana Mysuru theatre troupe, directed by Deepak Mysore, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Jwalamukhi Tripurasundari Temple, Uttanahalli:** Annual Jatra Mahotsava, Prasada Viniyoga, Temple premises, Uttanahalli, **12.30 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** 39th year's Purandara and Tyagaraja Aradhana, Karnatak Classical Music Concert Series, vocal concert by Shraddha Kote, accompanied by Amogh Nadadur on violin, Vikram Bharadwaj on mridanga and Harishchandra on kanjira, Krishnamurthypuram Rama Mandira, **6 pm.**
- **Shree Nataraja Performing Arts Centre (SNPAC), Mysuru:** 'Manjira Mahotsava-2026,' Annual Cultural Festival, Bharatanatyam by Vid. Sujay Shanbhag, Hubballi and his disciples, **6 pm;** Bharatanatyam by Vidu. Kavya Kasinathan, disciple of Natyacharya Mithun Shyam, Bengaluru, Ganabharathi's Ramagovinda Kalavedike, Kuvempunagar, **7.30 pm to 9 pm.**

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Border 2 (H)	:	9 am, 3.40 pm 6.35 pm, 10.20 pm
Cult (2026) (K)	:	9.40 am, 12.30 pm, 6.40 pm
Mardaani 3 (H)	:	9.45 am, 12.55 pm, 3.55 pm 7.35 pm, 10 pm
Send Help (E)	:	10.05 am, 4.05 pm
Raktha Kashmira (K)	:	12.35 pm, 10.10 pm
Amruthaanjan (K)	:	12.55 pm
Landlord (K)	:	3.55 pm, 10.30 pm
Sri Jagannatha Dasaru: Part 2 (K)	:	7.10 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Raktha Kashmira (K)	:	10.10 am, 4.40 pm
Teertharoopa Tandeyavarige (K)	:	10.15 am, 6.55 pm
Mardaani 3 (H)	:	10.25 am, 1.40 pm, 5.05 pm 7.25 pm, 10.20 pm
Mavuta (K)	:	10.50 am
Border 2 (H)	:	1.10 pm, 10.10 pm
Send Help (E-3D)	:	1.30 pm, 7.50 pm
Seat Edge (K)	:	1.45 pm
Valathu Vasathe Kallan (Ma)	:	4 pm
Chowkidar (K)	:	4.25 pm
Vikalpa (K)	:	8 pm
Chatha Pacha: The Ring of Rowdies (Ma)	:	10 pm
Prakambanam (Ma)	:	10.30 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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DOCUMENTS LOST
I, Dhathri D, residing at No. 38, 4th Main, 9th Cross, Subhash Nagar, Mysore-570 007, have lost the Allotment Letter, Possession Letter, Katha of Nagabasavaiah, Katha of N.S. Swamy and Katha of Rathnamma, has been lost on 24.01.2026.
Finders Please Contact :
82178 85236

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• COMPUTER TECHNICIAN - Diploma / Graduation in Computer Hardware - One Post
• COUNSELOR - BA / MA (Psychology) or Diploma in Counseling
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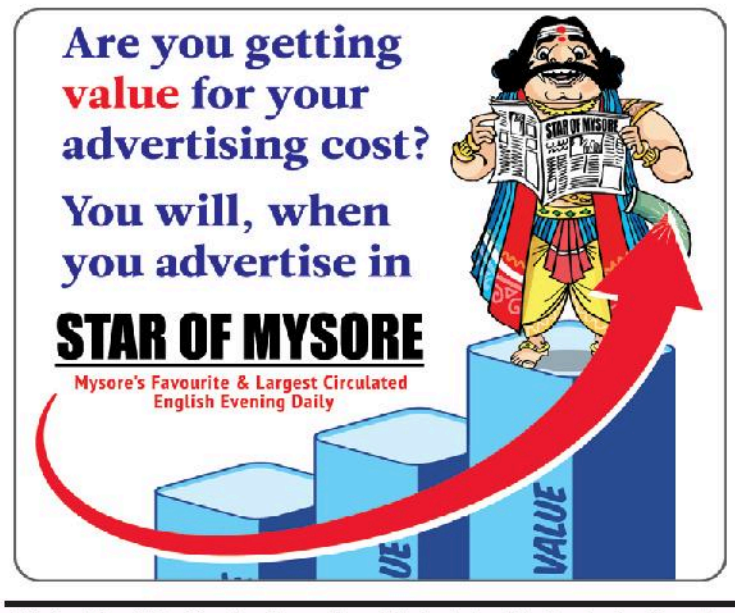
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